April 30, 1971

Dear Harold:

I was quite distressed by your letters (I received them both yesterday) about the Boggs matter. No, I didn't know anything about it... I am terribly sorry about it all. Is there anything you think I can do about it? To help, that is? Please let me know if there is.

Harold, dear, I'm going to give you some of the advice you have given me in the past, which has always helped... Try not to worry about the things you can't help. You can't take on the sins of the world!

You mentioned Arch. They give us absolutely no hope for Arch now. He has had four attacks. He is still in intensive care. There is a clot on the kidney, he has an infection, and is running a high temperature. They have been giving him blood thinner for the clot, anti-biotics for the infection, and they have him packed in ice for the fever. They let him out of intensive care last Friday (a week ago today) and he called me four time that night. He called his home the next morning at 7 a.m. and wanted to speak to his baby girl. It was the first time she had ever spent a night away from home and a neighbor had her to help Anne. Anne says little Elizabeth will regret it the rest of her life because those were the last words he spoke for almost a week. They moved him back to intensive care on Sunday night when he had another attack. He never spoke until Wednesday afternoon and then he said a few words to his brother who had just arrived. The nurse told me he actually smiled a bit. But then he had another attack last night, the worst one since the one that brought him into the hospital. I bought him a book about West Point and wrote him a letter with it last week... Anne said he was well enough to look at the book and read the letter Wednesday night. I am so glad about that. Losing Arch is going to be one of the most difficult things I'll ever go through.

Buck calls me from the hospital in Memphis every night or so to see how Arch is. Buck knows how much he means to me. I made a tearful statement to Buck the other night and was sorry I'd said it the minute it was out. I said, "Arch has always stood out, in my mind, like a giant among a lot of male pygmies." Buck just very quietly said, "Yes, I've always thought of him that way, too, Mary Elizabeth." As you've said so often, Harold, most of us have known far too many men we feel we'd be better off with enemies than <u>them</u> for friends... So few males are really <u>men</u> -- who will stand by their convictions and really be true to their friends.

Harold, you asked about my "files." I don't have my things separated like you do. I have the documents filed numerically and indexed on little 3 x 5 index cards. The only thing that comes to my mind about the "agent" thing is Henry Wade's statement which was repeated by Lonnie Hudkins and the bit about Jeremiah O'Leary in Washington. "Don't let O'Leary know you are in Washington asking questions" then the bit about Jerry O'Leary having died in New Zealand while

accompanying Kennedy and his party and having been buried in the Dallas area about the time of the assassination... and then three pages later, the statement by Jeremiah O'Leary in Washington after the assassination. It has all always been very strange to me. If you want all the references to that episode, I'll be happy to send it. Of course, the first day I ever met Marguerite Oswald, I made the statement that I didn't trust Marilyn Murret and she said she had always known Marilyn was an agent and that she had a letter from Lillian, Marilyn's mother, saying that Marilyn worked for the government...

I'll check all my LHO index cards and run the references to see what I can come up with regarding his being an agent.

You asked about Garrison "starting up" again. He was in Los Angeles on the 16th of April publicizing his book. He was supposed to have been looking for Roger Craig in connection with a suit Gordon Novel has filed for quite a sum ($25 million???), I think in Chicago. That's what I heard. I did hear that Garrison is going to again press forward with some of the suits he has had pending for some time. I imagine that includes Kerry Thornley and Tom Bethell but haven't heard definitely... I don't know how Roger Craig could help Jim with a suit by Gordon Novell...

I'll try to get to my cards tomorrow (Saturday) and write over the weekend about what I find.

Love to you and Lil,

Mary

One of the few "real men" I've known —